Worcester Mass Sept 15 Paid 10 5

Rev. A. A. Phelps

Boston

have chosen as the subject of your sermon to-morrow evening perhaps some space on the subject of Temperance would be acceptable to you. I want to tell you that the cause here is in a good state. I think it is gaining ground. The Temperance Convention which met in this city on the 4th inst. was a very interesting occasion. Many addresses were made, and the meeting was addressed by Gen. Neal Dow of Portland, Rev. Mr. Hawes of Hartford, Rev. Mr. Cheever of New York, Rev. Mr. Blagden of Boston, Rev. Mr. Hewit of Boston, Rev. Mr. Hague of Boston, Rev. Mr. Thompson

manner & with a kind & candid spirit, produces great effects. Our church on for the most part anti-slavery now, & I believe the town would become such — there should be mentioned an academy, 150 students from which you would accept, & the preceptress of which is such a kind of abolitionist as the New York Observer in justice to make — done as my influence has magnified him. The lawyer is altogether kind in his feelings towards me as an abolitionist, & proposed that I should write on the subject before our Association.

Further, It is important to the cause in this region & in southern N. Hampshire that Newspswick be right.

Now will you come. Leave your daguerreo at home & all the stabbing apparatus. Bring only the sword of the Spirit & the armor of righteousness. Such will be Sept 4 Sabbath & the Sabbath after it will not be convenient. Come the first Sabbath in Oct or as soon after as possible. Write so soon as you can decide. You will — must bring your wife to see us. Be sure & write him & what fine granite hills we have here.

I have many things to say unto you on the general subject of my work, but will say it face to face. I want especially to talk you how you view

Now Br. Phelps will you come & spend a Sabbath with us: in the morning give us a good gospel sermon, that will do us good & at the same time introduce you to the confidence & the rational & the pious: in the afternoon give us the Bible doctrine of simplicity: for a third service the same, or what you please that is appropriate to the Sabbath: Next morning opening the subject in its secular & political relations; & if it shall be thought expedient a lecture on Tuesday Evening. In short I shall be glad to have the subject brought before the public mind, & thoroughly discussed. Since I want to introduce the lecturer myself, I to say that he comes at my request & that I expect he will discuss the subject in a candid & christian manner. I have had no agency in procuring the lecturers hitherto, I have been ashamed of their advocacy & at most if it have been grieved — Those of my people who are not abolitionists misunderstood me to be an abolitionist of the sober & serious & rational sort, & I do think that the more who shall come in with my recommendation, & whose lectures I shall earnestly request them to attend will — if he discuss the subject in a logical

Sam'l Lee.

Newburyport Sept. 14 1837.

PHELPS MSS.

54 Dear Br. Phelps

I am not going to write so long a letter as my last, nor such a one in all respects. But wish to say that at a meeting of the Officers of the Anti Slavery Society they unanimously agreed, at my suggestion, to invite you to come & give us a lecture or lectures on the subject of abolition. Although you are so effectually by monomania, I believe you can do what is needed here better than any other man I know. The good cause has suffered here by a most unfortunate advocacy in our towns. We have had several lectures during the year I have been here, but not one of them but did, I fear, more harm than good. They were such that to the men of good taste could not but be disgusting. Even good Br. Woodbury hurt our cause. He attempted to keep the people laughing. I was himself much of the time on the grin. Now we want a lucid & serious exhibition of truth on the subject. We want logic & not a ~~southeast storm~~ thunder storm, & ~~spirit we want~~ piety & not fun.

What is to be at Worcester on the 27th inst. Come & N. H. meeting & visit of the Convention & then to Concord & Haverhill—perhaps Brooks.